

Subject: Ellen, Here's What Happened In August

From: Councilmember Jos   Huizar

Date: 9/1/17, 5:57 PM

To: "Ellen Endo" <ellenendo@yahoo.com>

JOS  HUIZAR

COUNCILMEMBER DISTRICT 14 | CITY OF LOS ANGELES



Ellen --

This month, the City Council made progress on some issues close to my heart and essential to the future of our city. We're tackling our city's housing crisis by providing funding that can be used to preserve existing housing and provide incentives to developers to create more affordable housing. Among other things, I helped advance funding for affordable housing through a Linkage Fee, with the aim of preventing homelessness, by using the funds to keep people in their homes and protect affordable housing covenants at risk of expiring. The City's Planning Department also released a Permanent Supportive Housing Ordinance that I called for in our Comprehensive Homeless Strategy report that proposes ways to streamline the construction of supportive housing for the homeless throughout our city.

Homelessness isn't just a city issue - it affects us all county-wide. That's why I'm excited about a City-County partnership that will provide the supportive services necessary to ensure the success of the thousands of apartments we are building with funding from Prop HHH. We must have more housing and more services in all areas of the region. People fall into homelessness in all of our neighborhoods, and they deserve the chance to get shelter and support in the communities they call home. So I'm excited to report on progress being made to expand social service programs for the homeless throughout the District and the City as well.

I also continue to fight for a more pedestrian friendly City, one where there are more and safer transportation choices. I advocated for the passing of Assembly Bill 390 to stop ticketing pedestrians who are crossing the street safely during the signal countdown. And this week, I celebrated with Mayor Garcetti at the reopening of Angel's Flight, a cultural landmark in Downtown Los Angeles.

Read below for more on our policy developments and community updates. As always, please [contact my office](#) with any questions, comments or concerns. Stay updated on the latest news by following me on social media: [Twitter](#), [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#).

Sincerely,

Jos  

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Linkage Fee Passes Huizar's Planning and Land Use Committee



This month, the Planning and Land Use Committee (PLUM), which Councilmember Huizar chairs, unanimously supported a plan to direct more funding to create and preserve affordable housing. Before the committee vote, Councilmember Huizar, Councilmembers Harris-Dawson and Bonin, and numerous community organizations held a press conference in support of the linkage fee, which will create a steady source of revenue and generate hundreds of millions of dollars to address affordable housing.

In CD14, Councilmember Huizar has supported dozens of affordable and homeless housing projects during his tenure, but the citywide shortage of affordable housing remains one of the City's greatest challenges. Along with Mayor Garcetti, Councilmember Huizar has been committed to pursuing the linkage fee funding approach since he helped create the Comprehensive Homelessness Strategy, which initiated a study of such a fee as a possible funding source for affordable housing.

"I want to thank my City Council colleagues and fellow PLUM members for their unanimous vote in favor of the linkage fee," said Councilmember Huizar following the vote. "I also want to thank Mayor Garcetti and our community partners, the Coalition for a Just LA. Our goals for this linkage fee ordinance are to get at homelessness before it starts – to use the hundreds of millions of dollars the ordinance will generate to keep people in their homes and protect affordable housing covenants set to expire, as well as to build new affordable homes for workers and families." The final ordinance to create the Linkage Fee still must be heard by PLUM and the full Council.

Will you support the creation of funding affordable housing? How else can we tackle this crisis? [Share your thoughts here.](#)

Read more about the Linkage Fee here: [Daily News](#), [Downtown News](#), [Curbed LA](#), [My News LA](#)

Value Capture Moves Forward



In Councilmember Huizar's PLUM Committee, another affordable housing solution moved forward. The Value Capture Ordinance, introduced by Councilmembers O'Farrell and Huizar, would standardize the number of affordable units developers are required to build when they file for certain entitlements that allow increased density. The goal of Value Capture is to increase the overall supply of affordable housing units.

The Value Capture Ordinance also requires units to be designated affordable for a minimum of 55 years through "covenant" requirements. This ordinance applies affordability requirements to projects that increase density through Conditional Use Permits, Public Benefit and Elder Care Facilities. The City Attorney is now preparing the final ordinance for review and a final Council vote.

Los Angeles' Newest Mural Featuring Groundbreaking Women Gets Unveiled on Women's Equality Day



Councilmember Huizar and his wife Richelle were happy to help 15-year-old Isabel Peinado find a space on the corner of 4th and Camulos St. to bring Los Angeles' newest mural to Boyle Heights. "Empowerment" is an inspiring work of art and will earn Isabel the Girl Scouts highest honor for her effort - the Gold Award. Her mural depicts 16 groundbreaking women

from all backgrounds and walks of life. Women's Equality Day was the perfect day to celebrate this great achievement.

Congrats to Isabel, and all the kids who helped her complete the mural, on a beautiful and inspiring piece of art!

[Watch the unveiling here](#) (starts at 36:55)

For more coverage on the mural, check out [NBC](#), [KPCC](#) and [Eastsider LA](#)

City and County Partner To Provide Homeless Housing and Services



Councilmember Huizar joined Councilmember Harris-Dawson and County Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas in support of an LA County motion to provide wrap-around services to the thousands of units of housing the City will build with Proposition HHH funding, for those experiencing homelessness.

The agreement commits the County "to provide supportive services for each permanent supportive housing unit created" in the 88 cities in the County, including Los Angeles, whether through construction or the provision of rental subsidies.

"I want to thank Supervisor Ridley-Thomas and the Board of Supervisors for helping the City and County of Los Angeles keep our promises to the voters who passed Measures HHH and H," said Los Angeles City Councilmember José Huizar. "Through the Supervisors commitment highlighted by today's vote, people experiencing homelessness in LA County, including the City of Los Angeles, will get the wrap-around and rental-assistance services they need and deserve."

[Share your thoughts and ideas on homelessness here.](#)

Huizar Continues to Address Homelessness



(future LAHSA Kiosk)

Multi-Disciplinary Program Expands to Serve People Experiencing Homelessness

A combination of Measure H and other County funding is providing for an immediate expansion of Multi-Disciplinary Teams (MDTs) across the County, including four in the metropolitan service area that includes Council District 14.

These teams will operate on the successful street-level outreach program model created in Skid Row by Councilmember Huizar working with Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas. This model is intensive, sustained and proactive social service outreach to people experiencing homelessness.

MDTs in CD14 are being coordinated by The People Concern, overseeing four new MDTs to be deployed in DTLA, Echo Park/Westlake, Hollywood, and Northeast LA.

Another service organization, Exodus Recovery, will run the MDT for NELA, including El Sereno and the area in and around LAC+USC Medical Center in Boyle Heights.

Permanent Supportive Housing Ordinance Released

The City's Planning Department [released a report on Permanent Supportive Housing](#) (PSH), recommending ways that could streamline and cut costs of the construction of new housing for the homeless. PSH is a central pillar of the City's Comprehensive Homeless Strategy, which initially called for the report. PSH is housing that incorporates supportive services such as mental health treatment, addiction therapy and vocational training.

As proposed, for a project to be eligible for fewer permit restrictions, all units must be affordable, and a minimum of half of the total units would be restricted to persons who are

homeless. PSH projects are required to be linked to onsite or offsite supportive services. Projects would have to ensure one-to-one replacement of any existing affordable units.

Councilmember Huizar expressed optimism about the proposal, saying, "This report recognizes that the most important strategy for helping people who are currently living on the streets is to build more Supportive Housing. Thanks to the voters adopting HHH, we're going to build thousands of apartments for people experiencing homelessness. We need to build these much-needed units more quickly and find ways that reduce the cost. It's a key strategy if we're going to help the 34,000 people experiencing homelessness in LA, so I look forward to hearing this proposal in PLUM as soon as possible."

City Leases Kiosk To LASHA For Homeless Outreach

As part of Councilmember Huizar's efforts to assist those experiencing homelessness and with support from Mayor Eric Garcetti, the City agreed to lease a kiosk located outside City Hall to the Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority to use as a deployment station for outreach teams. When staffed by LAHSA employees and volunteers, it is intended to improve outreach and response times in the Civic Center area.

Huizar Advocating for Pedestrian Rights



After hearing from DTLA stakeholders following a series of "jaywalking" stings in 2016 that targeted pedestrians at crosswalks that feature countdown signals, Councilmember Huizar issued a City of Los Angeles Resolution calling on the state to fix its antiquated crosswalk law, which does not take into account the more modern countdown signals.

Earlier this month, Councilmember Huizar joined Assemblymember Santiago, LADOT, pedestrian activists, Downtown boosters and residents to advocate for the adoption of AB 390, which will allow pedestrians to cross during blinking countdown crosswalk signals, as long as they reach the other side before a solid hand symbol or Don't Walk wording appears.

"We are in the midst of a momentous shift when it comes to increasing pedestrian uses and space and our antiquated state crosswalk law has not kept pace with the City's goals in Downtown and elsewhere. AB 390 addresses the concerns that Downtown residents expressed to my office and led to us sponsoring a City Council Resolution calling on the state for a change in the law, and we join our constituents in advocating for full state legislative support of AB 390."

The bill is currently in the State Senate's Appropriations Committee. If it passes, the next step is a full Senate vote before heading back to the Assembly for a final concurrence vote.

For more information, check out [NBC4](#), [Downtown News](#), and [LAist](#).

Historic Angel's Flight Reopens





On Thursday, August 30, Councilmember Huizar, Mayor Garcetti and others celebrated the grand reopening of Angels Flight. The shortest railway in America has served as a Los Angeles landmark since 1901. The City and the Angels Flight Railway Foundation entered into an agreement that puts the rail cars back into service in a way that is safe, financially sustainable, and fully-integrated into the Downtown transit and pedestrian circulation system.

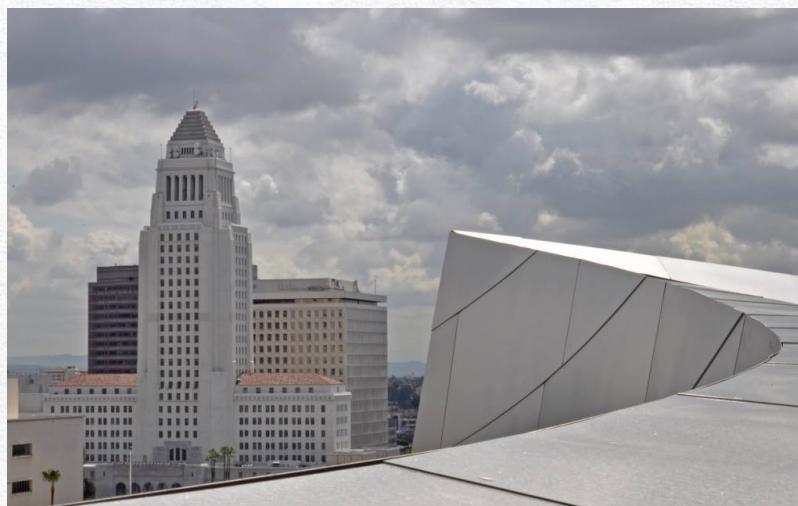
The price to ride Angels Flight is \$1 for a one-way ride. However, riders with Metro TAP cards can get a reduced fare of 50 cents. Angels Flight will operate seven days per week, from 6:45 am until 10:00 pm.

"In a City with as storied a history as Los Angeles, Angels Flight is a treasure that captivates us universally as Angelenos," said Councilmember José Huizar. "It speaks to our past, and a restored and safer Angels Flight points to our future as a modern, multi-modal Downtown Los Angeles. I want to thank Mayor Garcetti, the Angels Flight Railway Foundation and the ACS Group for all their effort in helping us bring this City of Los Angeles gem back to life."

[View the press conference here](#)

Read more about the reopening at [Downtown News](#).

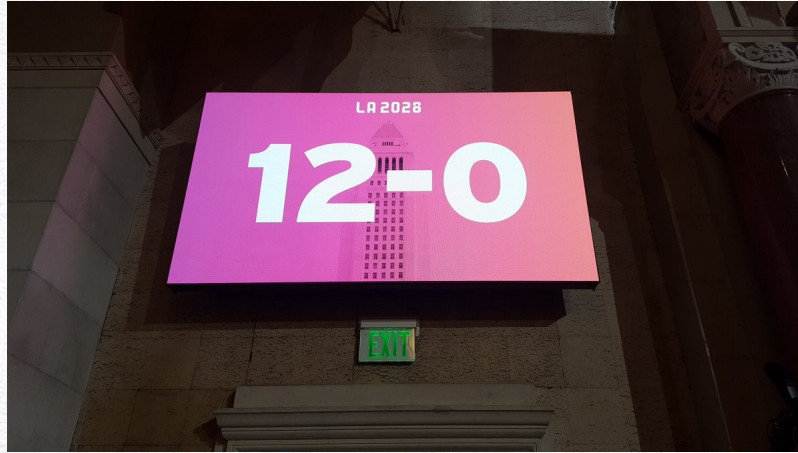
Huizar-led Effort Doubles Community Plan Workforce



Councilmember Huizar made good on his Community Plan reform effort when the City Council voted this week to adopt an ordinance that doubles the City Planning Department workforce dedicated to updating Community Plans. The additional workers ensure plans get updated more frequently - every six years instead of every 20 years as is too often the case today - fulfilling a promise made earlier this year.

More timely updates are important because Community Plans map out the types of land uses we want to see in our neighborhoods - the scale of commercial corridors and density of housing, as well as community policy priorities, such as neighborhood preservation or transit oriented development.

City Council Approves LA Olympics in 2028



The City Council voted to host the Olympics in 2028! Unlike other cities, Los Angeles already has the existing venues needed, which helps ensure the financial viability of hosting the event. Still, as the Council gets more of the financial analysis back, there will be 18 months to adjust. Councilmember Huizar is extremely excited about the initial \$160 million investment into youth sports across LA, which will give kids their own chances at competing in the Olympics one day.

LA Receives \$3 Million in Grants to Assist American Apparel Workers



The City of Los Angeles received \$1.8 million from the State to help the hundreds of employees terminated when American Apparel went out of business. The County of Los Angeles received \$1.2 million. Funding will go to LAUSD to help with basic skills training and ESL classes. The State's Employment Development Department will assist with unemployment insurance, labor exchange services and help with City WorkSource centers to help train employees.

Heat Wave Hits LA



A heatwave has hit Los Angeles, and high temperatures are continuing throughout the weekend.

Staying safe in high heat is important. Follow these simple tips to stay cool:

- Drink plenty of cool water! Stay hydrated.
- Wear loose, light-colored clothing that will keep you cool. Wear sunscreen and a hat for protection.
- Check on neighbors who might be vulnerable to the heat, especially those without air conditioning.
- Never leave children or pets in a car - not even for one minute. Temperatures inside a car can quickly skyrocket to deadly levels.
- If you work or play outside, take frequent breaks to hydrate and cool off in the shade.
- Don't forget the pets! Keep pets indoors if possible. If kept outside, give them plenty of water and shade to rest in.
- Symptoms of heat-related illness include dizziness, fatigue, faintness, headaches, muscle cramps, and increased thirst. If you experience these symptoms, seek medical attention.

Cooling Centers are open throughout CD14. Recreation and Parks facilities like recreation centers, senior centers, and museums are open to the public and serve as cooling centers during normal hours of operation. Public libraries are also available during normal hours.

Available options across CD14 include the El Sereno Senior Center, Highland Park Senior Center, Eagle Rock Library, Pecan Park and Evergreen Rec Centers, Little Tokyo Library and Central Library. The centers and libraries will be closed for Labor Day.

Out & About In CD14



(photo by LA Times)

Columbus Day in Los Angeles is now Indigenous People's Day! Italian American Heritage Day will be every October 12.



Councilmember Huizar and his wife Richelle spent a Thursday night enjoying the Jazz on Spring series at Spring Street Park and Art Walk.



Councilmember Huizar's office recognized Gustavo Sanchez (left) for celebrating 11 years as the proprietor of "Tony's Subs & Salads" restaurant in El Sereno.



Councilmember Huizar and his wife Richelle are seen here with Father Jim Nieblas, who this month celebrated 50 years of spiritual life and his 70th birthday. The Councilman went to his

alma mater Bishop Mora Salesian High School, and Father Jim inaugurated and blessed Salesian's new chapel, library and counseling center, which will help young men continue to succeed academically, spiritually and personally!



Students in LAUSD began a new school year this month, and the CD14 field offices ensured students were ready to go on their first day.





National Night Out events across CD14 had an excellent turnout filled with great conversation, music, food and goodies. Councilmember Huizar and the CD14 staff were happy to assist. It was great to see the community, organizations and LAPD come together to promote peace in our neighborhoods.



Councilmember Huizar celebrated Nisei Week with his family in Little Tokyo.



Councilmember Huizar and Richelle at the reopening of Holy Grounds Coffee Shop, an El Sereno sanctuary for creativity, productivity, relaxation and a great cup of coffee!



Big CD14 congrats to Little Ripper Coffee for bringing amazing coffee and a taste of the Aussie spirit to Verdugo Village in Glassell Park! The shop is located at 4155 Verdugo Road.



Councilmember Huizar and his wife Richelle recognized Michael Nogueira for 20 years of "Eagle Rock Concerts in the Park!" As Eagle Rock Chamber President, Michael has been a great leader and advocate for local businesses, and through events like Concerts in the Park, he has helped bring the entire Eagle Rock community together.

Councilmember José Huizar
<http://www.josehuizar.com/>

[here](#).

You can also keep up with Councilmember José Huizar on [Twitter](#) or [Facebook](#).

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